

Construction Teaching Methods

Teaching of construction at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts is at bachelor level given as compulsory courses for all students of the first and the second year by the Building Science department. Thus construction is introduced both as topics of building science such as, static construction, applied technology, light, acoustics, materials, and building physics. The introduction is both given as lectures and as individual exercises of short duration.

Generally it could be said that the aim of teaching at the architecture school in Copenhagen stresses the importance of integrated design and construction projects. Thus to fit in the program of project the courses of construction teaching for the advanced studies often are planned in cooperation between the design departments and the Building Design department. At the advanced level the teaching involves more and more focus on the individual project, which stresses the need for individual consultation of construction teaching by engineers with special competence on static construction as well as by other discipline of building science.

Matter and Vision ? Philosophy on Teaching

Materials are experienced and understood as knowledge of scientific as well as of poetic character. Through modulated dialogue relation to matter constantly change as reality is experienced. Thus relations to matter and vision give meaning as entities of a creative approach, when it comes to search for the possibilities of construction.

Through dialogue with matter visions are grasped and evolved as hands on and mute visual experiences as well as in semantic meanings and definitions of scientific character. Thus architectural construction is scientific definitions as well as poetic character.

The aim of the material teaching of the School of Architecture at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts is thus to sharpen the ability to sense, analytic and synthetic, conscious as well through an intuitive relation of construction. Thus the object of the teaching method is to provide the student with a confident argumentation for, and the mean to, establish and evolve an individual language to operate and screen a possible dialogue with matter and vision.

Matter and Vision - the Course

Matter and Vision is a course for the master program of the School of Architecture at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts.

It is a course of free choice for the department, but once chosen by a department, it is adapted to the semester plan and compulsory for the students.

The course is a combination of lectures/seminar conducted as a round table arrangement involving the students in presentations once a week. Throughout the period the course also involves exercise in the studio.

The course is normally held within a period of four weeks of lectures and seminar discussions once a week. During this period the students are given a well-known building of architectural history and investigate its construction. The students are faced with the question to choose a representative constructional detail of the building and to build this detail in full scale. Through cooperation with the workshops of the architect school, the students are invited and encouraged to work directly in materials with all kind of mechanical and machinery as help.

The course ends with an open critique where construction, aesthetics and process of production will be discussed as an integrated analysis of architectural construction.

